

Receive ye the Holy Ghost (III)

John 20: 22

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

As a person reads through the OT it doesn't take him long to see the Holy Spirit active throughout the history of the world.

In the OT the Holy Spirit is seen:

1. Empowering the Judges and Warriors.

- Othniel Judg 3:10-11
- Gideon Judg 6:34
- Jephthah Judg 11:29
- Samson Judg 13:25
- Saul 1 Sam 16:14
- Ezekiel Ezek 2:1-3

2. Giving Wisdom to God's Servants.

- Bezalel Exo 31:2-3.
- Those who made Aaron's garments Ex 28:3.
- Builders of temple 1 Ki 7:14; 2 Chr 2:14.
- Joseph Gen 41:38.
- Joshua Nu 27:18.
- Daniel Dan 4:8; 5:11-14; 6:3.
- Zerubbabel Zec 4:6
- Holy Spirit gave strength and insight to the nation of Israel while in wilderness (Neh 9:20).

ISBE: *All these forms of the Spirit's action bore in some way upon the national life of the people, and were directed in one way or another toward theocratic ends.*

Holy Spirit active in OT, but His dwelling in lives of believers after Pentecost is different

1. Permanent

2. True of every individual believer.

OT--Holy Spirit came and went

NT--Stays in life of believer.

Once He has set up His abode in the believer He is there until death of the believer.

3. Giving Insight and Power to Prophets.

OT prophets were originally called seers

Designated by God to be spokesmen.

Prophets:

Azariah 2 Chr 15:1

Zechariah 2 Chr 24:20 Zech 1:1

Ezekiel Ezek 8:3 Ezek 11:1; Ezek 11:5; Ezek 11:24

Daniel Dan 4:8-9

Zacharias Luke 1:67

Elizabeth Luke 1:41

Simeon Luke 2:25-26

4. Giving Moral Purity

- Teaches will of God Ps 143:10
- Gives fear of Lord Isa 11:2-5
- Metes out judgment and righteousness Isa 32:15ff;
- Produces devotion to Lord Isa 44:3-5
- Produces hearty obedience and new heart Ezek 36:26
- Produces real repentance and prayer in heart Zec 12:10.
Ps 51:11

God's Word commands us to be under control of Holy Spirit in our lives Eph 5:18

Filled: Under control; under influence Gal 5:16

Ryrie: *Take each step of the Christian life in dependence on the Spirit to have victory over the flesh and its works. The sinful nature is received at birth and never eradicated in this life. But it can be controlled by the Spirit.*

A.W. Tozer: demand to be Lord of your life?expect unquestioning obedience in everything...not tolerate in you the self-sins even though they are permitted and excused by most Christians. . . . sharp opposition to the easy ways of the world and of the mixed multitude within the precincts of religion. ... jealous over you for good.Through it all he will enfold you in a love so vast, so mighty, so all-embracing, so wondrous that your very losses will seem like gains and your small pains like pleasure.

J. B. Phillips (1906–1982): *Every time we say, "I believe in the Holy Spirit," we mean that we believe that there is a living God able and willing to enter human personality and change it.*

Dwight Lyman Moody (1837–1899): *God commands us to be filled with the Spirit, and if we are not filled, it is because we are living beneath our privileges.*

Malcolm Muggeridge (1903–1990) *I have often, myself, sat in darkness, and cried aloud for the Holy Spirit to deliver me from the fantasies*

that gather round a parched soul like flies round a rotting carcass in the desert. Likewise, I have sat tongue-tied, crying out to be given utterance, and delivered from the apprehensions that afflict the earth-bound. And never, ultimately, in vain. Jesus' promise is valid; the Comforter needs only to be summoned. The need is the call, the call is the presence, and the presence is the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth.

Oswald Chambers (1874–1917): *If the Holy Ghost is indwelling a man or woman, no matter how sweet, how beautiful, how Christ-like they are, the lasting thought you go away with is—what a wonderful being the Lord Jesus Christ is.*

Oswald Chambers (1874–1917) *It is extraordinary how things fall off from a man like autumn leaves once he comes to the place where there is no rule but that of the personal domination of the Holy Spirit.*

God used me during those years for the conversion of souls, but I had no conscious communion with Him. The Bible was the dullest, most uninteresting book in existence, and the sense of depravity, the vileness and bad-motivedness of my nature, was terrific. I see not that God was taking me by the light of the Holy Spirit and his Word through every ramification of my being.

.....If the 4 previous years had been hell on earth, these 5 years have truly been heaven on earth. Glory be to God, the last aching abyss of the human heart is filled to overflowing with the love of God. Love is the beginning, love is the middle and love is the end. After He comes in, all you see is 'Jesus only, Jesus ever.' Oswald They Found the Secret, by V. Raymond Edman (Zondervan; 1960, 1984;):

Why most Christians not filled with Spirit?

Finney on Revival pp 108-119

1. A hypocritical life
2. Too flippant in our relationship with God. Too much levity
3. Pride.
4. Worldliness
5. Disobedience
6. Unwillingness for it to happen
7. Satisfied without the fullness
8. Afraid of being called eccentric
9. Surface Piety
10. Unwillingness to pay the price
11. Unwillingness to experience Satanic attack
12. Unwillingness to suffer inner conflicts

Sin—unconfessed sin

So What?

Controlled by Spirit?

Constantly bringing the scriptures to mind?

Internal desire to speak about Jesus?

Internal motivation to glorify Christ?

Sense His Conviction--sin, righteousness and judgment?

Desire to be filled with Spirit?

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